## Message Text

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**ACTION ARA-10** 

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 /018 W

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R 111630Z SEP 75

FM AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

TO AMEMBASSY QUITO

INFO USDOC WASHDC

SECSTATE WASHDC 4134

**UNCLASS GUAYAQUIL 1451** 

EO 11652: N/A TAGS: BEXP, EC

SUBJ: PURCHASE OF SCIENTIFIC VESSEL BY INSTITUTO OCEA-

NOGRAFICO DE LA ARMADA

- 1. DURING COURTESY CALL BY CONSUL GENERAL BISHTON AT INSTITUTE SEPTEMBER 10, WE WERE INFORMED BY NEW DIRECTOR (AND FORMER DEPUTY DIRECTOR) PEDRO CABEZAS THAT INSTITUTE SIGNING SAME DAY CONTRACT WORTH 8 MILLION SUCRES (APPROXIMATELY 320,000 DOLLARS) WITH HALTER MARINE SERVICES, INC., OF NEW ORLEANS, LA., FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH VESSEL TO COMPLEMENT AGED VESSEL "ORION" WHICH IS ONLY OTHER SUCH VESSEL INSTITUTE HAS. DELIVERY EXPECTED WITHIN TWO MONTHS AND MAY INCLUDE SOME TRAINING FOR CAPTAIN AND CRST MEMBERS IN LOUISIANA.
- 2. CABEZAS INDICATED THAT INSTITUTE HAS BEEN LOOKING INTO PURCHASE OF A THIRD VESSEL, IN USED CONDITION, THROUGH THE UNIVERSITY OF OREGON BUT THAT AGE OF VESSEL OFFERED NOT ATTRACTIVE DUE TO INABILITY OBTAIN SPARE PARTS, ALTHOUGH BOAT IN OTHERWISE GOOD CONDITION.
- 3. FACT THAT INSTITUTE'S APPETITE FOR ADDITIONAL RESEARCH VESSEL APPARENTLY NOT SATISFIED MAY MEAN THERE IS ANOTHER TRADE OPPORTUNITY HERE AND SUGGEST THAT USDOC INFORM POTENTIAL US SUPPLIERS. BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT INSTITUTE'S BUDGET LIMITED AND THEY ONLY ABLE TO PURCHASE USED VESSEL. UNCLASSIFIED

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BISHTON

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TAGS: BEXP, EC To: QUITO

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